

WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P. O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707-7882

April 24, 2020

Governor Tony Evers 15 E State Capitol Madison, WI 53707

Dear Governor Evers:

You recently received a memo from many organizations representing nearly every facet of agriculture in Wisconsin. These organizations have been working closely with your administration to support farmers and the agricultural industry throughout the COVID-19 response. They have been positively engaged, supportive and helpful.

However, we all recognize that agriculture has not received the same financial support and prioritization from the Federal CARES Act as other types of businesses. This is why we strongly support the Ag-Industry's request to provide Wisconsin farmers with \$50 million in direct cash relief from the \$1.9 billion in your discretionary funding from the CARES Act.

As Governor, you have a very unique opportunity to dedicate these dollars however you see fit. We are asking you to prioritize agriculture and provide relief to the industry that is most in trouble right now.

As you know, agriculture has faced many years of lagging prices and hardships. Your own State of the State Address focused on agriculture and strategies to help farmers. At the beginning of 2020, we all felt like things were looking up. But then the COVID-19 pandemic hit.

The Federal CARES Act has given you \$1.9 billion to distribute however you want to do it. We strongly encourage you to renew your commitment to agriculture and provide direct cash relief to our farmers and one of the most important supply chains in our state.

Sincerely,

Sen. Howard Marklein	Rep. Rob Brooks	Rep. Dave Murphy 56 th Assembly District	Rep. Gary Tauchen
17 th Senate District	60 th Assembly District		6 th Assembly District
Sen. Kathy Bernier 23 rd Senate District	Rep. Barbara Dittrich 38 th Assembly District	Rep. Jeff Mursau 36 th Assembly District	Rep. Jeremy Thiesfeldt 52 nd Assembly District
Sen. Rob Cowles	Rep. James Edming	Rep. Todd Novak	Rep. Travis Tranel
2 nd Senate District	8th Assembly District	51 st Assembly District	49 th Assembly District
Sen. Alberta Darling 8 th Senate District	Rep. Rick Gundrum	Rep. Loren Oldenburg	Rep. Ron Tusler
	58 th Assembly District	96 th Assembly District	3 rd Assembly District
Sen. Andrea Jacque 1st Senate District	Rep. Jesse James 68 th Assembly District	Rep. John Plumer 42 nd Assembly District	Rep. Nancy VanderMeer 70 th Assembly District
Sen. Devin LeMahieu 9 th Senate District	Rep. Bob Kulp 69 th Assembly District	Rep. Treig Pronschinske 92 nd Assembly District	Rep. Shannon Zimmerman 30 th Assembly District
Sen. Luther Olsen 14 th Senate District	Rep. Tony Kurtz 50 th Assembly District	Rep. Timothy Ramthun 59 th Assembly District	
Sen. Lena Taylor	Amy Loudenbeck	Rep. Michael Schraa	
4 th Senate District	31st Assembly District	53 rd Assembly District	
Sen. Tom Tiffany	Rep. John Macco	Rep. John Spiros	
12 th Senate District	88 th Assembly District	86 th Assembly District	
Sen. Van Wanggaard	Rep. Gae Magnafici	Rep. Jim Steineke	
21st Senate District	28 th Assembly District	5 th Assembly District	

CC: Randy Romanski, Interim Secretary - WI DATCP, Maggie Gau, Chief of Staff, Office of the Governor